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# A trial of the Effective Lifelong Learning Inventory (ELLI):

## A case study

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## **Abstract**

The purpose of education is to prepare learners for the world they are going to live in. Education should actively support learners to develop the capabilities they need to engage productively with the difficult and challenging problems that are part of today's world. The Effective Lifelong Learning Inventory (ELLI) is a programme designed to assist in the development and measurement of the learning dispositions of: strategic awareness, changing and learning, meaning making, creativity, critical curiosity, learning relationships and resilience. This thesis has taken a case study approach to explore the process of the trial of ELLI within one urban secondary school. The introduction of the tool actively supported the developing learning culture of the students and the learning culture of the staff. Drawing on the perspectives of both staff and students and unpacking the difficulties associated with the implementation, this thesis analyses the process involved in trialling the tool.

To document the trial process, data were collected from observations of all meetings and presentations, and interviews with both the teachers and students involved in the trial. The reasons the school undertook the trial were explored, through interviews with the principal and teachers, by examining the culture of learning and the professional learning history in the school. The GPILSEO model for sustainability of school change was used to examine the key factors of goals, pedagogy, institutions, leadership, spread, evidence and ownership of the trial process. The impact of the trial process on students was explored by examining their academic results, their ELLI profiles and listening to the students.



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## **Glossary**

asTTle	The Assessment Tool for Teaching and Learning assesses students' performance against the New Zealand Curriculum levels in reading, writing and mathematics.
Board of Trustees	An elected board responsible for the governance of a school in New Zealand consisting of the principal, an elected staff member, an elected student representative (secondary school only), and elected parents or community members.
Effect size	An effect size is a standardised measure of the strength of relationship between two variables. The larger the effect size the stronger the influence of the intervention or practice on the desired outcome.
ELLI	The Effective Lifelong Learning Inventory is an online tool to measure learning dispositions.
ERO	The Education Review Office reviews and publicly reports on the quality of education and care of students' in New Zealand schools.
ETP	The Effective Teaching Profile was the basis of the Te Kotahitanga professional development innovation.
GPILSEO	A framework for the sustainability of school change with the essential facets of Goals, Pedagogy, Institutions, Leadership, Spread, Evidence and Ownership.



Intermediate School	A separate school for Years 7 and 8 in New Zealand between Primary school (Years 1-6) and Secondary school (Years 9-13).
NCEA	The National Certificate of Educational Achievement is the New Zealand qualification for secondary students.
PAT	The Progressive Achievement Tests are a series of standardised tests developed for use in New Zealand schools.
PB4L:SW	Positive Behaviour for Learning: School Wide is a framework involving staff and students in building consistent approaches to behaviour to enable academic and social success for students.
RTLB	Resource Teachers of Learning and Behaviour support school students with learning and behaviour difficulties by supporting teachers in an inclusive environment.
SOLO	The Structure of Observed Learning Outcomes provides a model of learning outcomes and learning language describing five levels of understanding from surface to deep to conceptual understanding.